

GRADUATED SANCTIONS

OCTOBER 21, 2003

Attendance: Corey Steel, Juvenile Expediter; Rose Hughes, Lighthouse; Lori Griggs, Juvenile Probation; Gus Hitz, Youth Assessment Center; Becky Steiner, Cedars Day Reporting; Janet Johnson, Cedars Tracker; Mindy Vogel, Cedars Day Reporting; Linda Alm, CenterPointe; LeeAnn Pancharoen, Lincoln Action Program; Anne Hobbs, Juvenile Justice Coordinator; and Scott Carlson, Juvenile Drug Court.

I. Youth in Detention

- There are 43 youth in Detention this morning.
- Parole and County Court have the most kids.

II. Attendance in Sanctions

- Project Hire is over half way through their slots and they are seeking additional funding for more slots.
- Cedar's Day Reporting is getting more referrals.
- BEST - Has five youth.
- ERC – Has six youth.
- Probation is not running all of their electronic monitors. They have 4 – 6 monitors available at most times.
- Drug Court – Scott stated that they have 15 youth in the program. Also they are finding youth who using alcohol. Drug Court also has several youth awaiting final approval to come into Drug Court.
- Youth Build – Has 19 young people in the program.
- Lori & Corey discussed their investigation in to cellular phone electronic monitors. The county may be able to add cellular monitors. They cost \$3.50 per day to rent. These would enable families who cannot afford a landline to have their youth out of detention. Corey will use one youth as a case study – how long the youth remained in detention because the parents could not pay their landline phone bill. Corey and Lori emphasized that this would only be for families that could not pay their phone bill, versus those who chose not to.

III. Problems Encountered

- No one had any at this time.

IV. State Wide Meeting Regarding Assessment Center & Crisis Report – Gus

- Gus discussed the meeting that occurred two weeks ago. There are now four Assessment Centers in NE.
- Crisis Response - Gus explained in detail about the need to respond to youth who have gone on run three times. He is putting together a proposal for the Youth

Assessment Center to: screen, assess and do short-term case management with these youth. Gus discussed having slots in DR, ERC available. The group also discussed the use of the cultural centers, LAP's after school programs & Light House – all of which are free and available. Gus is going to include a flexible spending for incentives for the youth to go and stay in the programs. The money would then be used to purchase something as an incentive for the youth.

- This Crisis Response would be a collaborative agreement and fits in well with Lancaster County's Comprehensive Plan.

V. Comprehensive Plan Up –Date – Anne Hobbs

- There are projects on going.
- Team 5 is meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 22nd.
- Anne will post data on HHS's website sometime in Nov.
- There are points in the system where minorities where minority youth statistics really stand out. I. E. Hispanics are not counted accurately. It is not comparable to census data. African Americans and Native Americans are over represented. Native Americans were more likely to not complete Probation satisfactorily and were 4 times as likely to be detained. African Americans have 8 times the rate sent to YRTC's, but not that high of number were in the Detention Center. African Americans - 50% of the youth in the Detention Center were filed on as adults.

VI. Other News

- Corey is meeting with the Juvenile Court Judges to go over each program and to get their input and feedback.
- The next Graduated Sanctions meeting will be Tuesday, November 18th, at 8:30 a.m.